

# STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

DEPARTMENT OF PROGRAM INTEGRITY
AUDIT SERVICES
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**BILL HASLAM** 

**DANIELLE W. BARNES** 

GOVERNOR

COMMISSIONER

April 24, 2017

Guy Hardin, Owner Shining Stars Christian Learning Center 2615 South Roan Street, Suite 105 Johnson City, Tennessee 37601-7683

Dear Mr. Hardin:

The Department of Human Services Audit Services staff conducted an on-site unannounced review of the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) at Shining Stars Christian Learning Center (Sponsor), Application Agreement 00-613, on January 10, 2017. Additional information was requested and received on January 13, 2017 to complete the review. We reviewed the Sponsor's records of reimbursements and expenditures for December 2016. The purpose of this review was to determine if the Sponsor complied with the *Title 7 the Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) applicable parts, application agreement, and applicable Federal and State regulations.

## Background

CACFP Sponsors utilize meal count sheets to record the number of meals served for breakfast, lunch, supper and supplements meals served. Meals served by participating Sponsors must meet the minimum guidelines set by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and DHS to be eligible for reimbursement. The CACFP Sponsors report the number of meals served through the DHS Tennessee Information Payment System (TIPS) system to seek reimbursement. We inspected meal counts, attendance records, applications, enrollment forms, menus and expenses for our test period. We also observed a meal service during this period.

Our review of the Sponsor's records for December 2016 revealed the following:

# The number of participants reported in the free and paid categories was incorrect

# Condition

Applications provided by the Sponsor showing participants as free, reduced or paid were correct. The number of free and paid participants reported by the sponsor did not match the applications.

The Claim for Reimbursement for December 2016 reported 10 participants in the free category, four participants in the reduced-price category, and 38 participants in the paid category. However, based on our review of the Sponsor's records, we noted that there were 12 participants in the free category, four participants in the reduced category, and 36 participants in the paid category.

## Criteria

Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations Section 226.10(c) states, "Claims for Reimbursement shall report information in accordance with the financial management system established by the State agency, and in sufficient detail to justify the reimbursement claimed and to enable the State agency to provide the final Report of the Child and Adult Care Food Program (FNS 44) required under §226.7(d). In submitting a Claim for Reimbursement, each institution shall certify that the claim is correct and that records are available to support that claim. ..."

## Recommendation

The Sponsor should ensure that the categories of free, reduced and paid participants claimed agree with the participants' application.

#### **Corrective Action**

Shining Stars Christian Learning Center must complete the following actions within 30 days from the date of this report:

Prepare and submit a corrective action plan to address the deficiencies identified in this report. The corrective action plan template is attached. Please return the corrective action plan to:

## AuditServices.CAPS.DHS@tn.gov

If you have questions relative to the corrective action plan please contact:

Allette Vayda, Director Child and Adult Care Food Program 8th Floor Citizens Plaza Building 400 Deaderick Street Nashville, Tennessee 37243 Allette Vayda@tn.gov

We appreciate the assistance provided during this review. If you have any questions, please contact Jackie Yokley, Audit Director 2, at 615-837-5035 or <a href="mailto:Jackie.D.Yokley@tn.gov">Jackie.D.Yokley@tn.gov</a>.

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Director, Audit Services

# Exhibit

cc: Christie Blevins, Director, Shining Stars Christian Learning Center Allette Vayda, Director, Child and Adult Care Food Programs Brian Anthis, Program Coordinator, Child and Adult Care Food Program Comptroller of the Treasury, State of Tennessee

# **EXHIBIT**

**Verification of CACFP Independent Center Claim (Claiming Percentages)** 

Name of Agency: Shining Stars Christian Learning Center

Review Month/Year: December 2016

Total Meal Reimbursement Received: \$1,526.21

Program Area	Reported on Claim	Verified By Monitoring Review	Verified By Sampling Data (Yes/No/NA)	
Number of Days that CACFP Food Service was operated	21	21	No	
Total Attendance	740	741*	No	
Percentage of Participants in the Free or Reduced-price Category (For Proprietary Center Only)	xxxxxx	31%	No	
Number of Breakfasts Served	627	627	No	
Number of Lunches Served	740	740	No	
Number of Suppers Served	NA	NA	NA	
Number of Supplements Served	740	740	No	
Number of Participants in Free Category	10	12*	No	
Number of Participants in Reduced- Price Category	4	4	No	
Number of Participants in Paid Category	38	36*	No	
Total Number of Participants	52	52	No	
Total Amount of Eligible Food Costs	xxxxxxxx	\$1,643.47	No	
Total Amount of Eligible Food and Non-Food Costs	xxxxxxx	\$2,542.81	No	

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# **Tennessee Department of Human Services**

# **Corrective Action Plan for Monitoring Findings**

**Instructions:** Please print in ink or type the information to complete this document. Enter the date of birth for each Responsible Principal and/or Individual in Section B. Attach the additional documentation requested. Enter your name, title and date of signature on the last page. Please sign your name in ink. **Please return ALL pages of the completed Corrective Action Plan form.** 

#### Section A. Institution Information

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Name of Sponsor/Agency/Site: Shining Stars C Learning Center	Christian	Agreement No. 00-613	☐ SFSP ☑ CACFP		
Mailing Address: 2615 South Roan Street, Suit	te 105 Johnso	on City, Tennessee 376	601-7683		
Section B. Responsible Principal(s) and/or	Individual(s)				
Name and Title: Guy Hardin, Owner		Date of Birth: / /			
Section C. Dates of Issuance of Monitoring	Report/Corre	ective Action Plan			
Monitoring Report: 04/24/2017	Corrective Action Plan: 04/24/2017				
Findings:  1. The number of participants reported in t	he free and p	aid categories was inco	orrect.		
The following measures will be completed with	nin <b>30 calend</b>	ar days of my institutio	n's receipt of this corrective		
action plan:  Measure No. 1: The number of participants	reported in	the free and paid cate	egories was incorrect.		
The finding will be fully and permanently correctly ldentify the name(s) and position title(s) of the sis fully and permanently corrected:	ted.	•			
Name: Position Title:					
Name:	Position Title:				

Describe below the <b>step-by-step</b> procedures that will be implemented to correct the finding:
When will the procedures for addressing the finding be implemented? Provide a timeline below for implementing the procedures (i.e., will the procedures be done daily, weekly, monthly, or annually, and when will they begin?):
Where will the Corrective Action Plan documentation be retained? Please identify below:
How will new and current staff be informed of the new policies and procedures to address the finding (e.g., Handbook, training, etc.)? Please describe below:

I certify by my signature below that I am authorized by the institution to sign this document. As an authorized representative of the institution, I fully understand the corrective measures identified above and agree to fully implement these measures within the required time frame. I also understand that failure to fully and permanently correct the findings in my institution's CACFP or SFSP will result in its termination from the program, and the placement of the institution and its responsible principals on the National Disqualified List maintained by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Printed Name of Authorized Institution Official:	Position:			
Signature of Authorized Institution Official:	Date:	1	1	
Signature of Authorized TDHS Official:	Date:	7	/	

# APPEAL PROCEDURES FOR CHILD AND ADULT CARE INSTITUTIONS AND SPONSORING AGENCIES

## **Appeal Procedures**

- 1. Pursuant to 7 CFR §226.6(k)(4), the TN Department of Human Services (TDHS) must provide administrative review procedures to institutions and responsible principals and responsible individuals as follows:
  - (a) Annually to all institutions;
  - (b) To an institution and to each responsible principal and responsible individual when the State agency takes any action subject to an administrative review as described in 7 CFR §226.6(k)(2); and
  - (c) Any other time upon request.
- 2. Pursuant to 7 CFR 226.6(k)(3) and (k)(9), some administrative actions are not subject to administrative review. Those actions are listed in paragraph 2.(a). Other administrative actions may be administratively appealed. Those actions are listed in paragraph 2.(b) and (c). All institutions and sponsoring agencies may appeal any adverse administrative action listed in paragraph 2.(b) which are taken by the TDHS by requesting a fair hearing to appear in person to refute the action, or by requesting a review of written information in lieu of a fair hearing.
  - (a) Pursuant to 7 CFR Part 226.6 (k)(3) TDHS is prohibited from offering administrative reviews of the following actions:
    - (i) FNS decisions on claim deadline exceptions and requests for upward adjustments to a claim.
    - (ii) Determination of serious deficiency.
    - (iii) State agency determination that corrective action is inadequate.
    - (iv) Disqualification and placement on State agency list and National disqualified list.
    - (v) Termination.
    - (vi) State agency or FNS decision regarding removal from the National disqualified list.
    - (vii) State agency's refusal to consider an application submitted by an institution or facility on the National disqualified list.
  - (b) Pursuant to 7 CFR Part 226.6(k)(9), an abbreviated appeal process is available for the following actions. TDHS must limit the administrative review to a review of written submissions by the TDHS and institutions or sponsoring agencies concerning the accuracy of the State agency's determination if the application was denied, or the State agency proposes to terminate the institution's agreement because:
    - (viii) The information submitted on the application was false;
    - (ix) The institution, one of its sponsored facilities, or one of the principals of the institution or its facilities is on the national disqualified list;
    - (x) The institution, one of its sponsored facilities, or one of the principals of the institution or its facilities is ineligible to participate in any other publicly funded program by reason of violation of the requirements of the program;

- (xi) The institution, one of its sponsored facilities, or one of the principals of the institution or its facilities has been convicted for any activity that indicates a lack of business integrity;
- (c) Administrative review is also available if the State agency notifies the institution and responsible principal or responsible individual of the following actions: proposed disqualification of a responsible principal or responsible individual, denial of a budget, denial of a line item within a budget, downward adjustment of the amount approved in a budget, suspension of an institution's participation, denial of start-up or expansion funds, denial of a request for advanced payment, recovery of an advance in excess of a claim, denial of a claim for reimbursement (except for late submission), decision not to forward an exception request for payment of a late claim, overpayment demand, denial of a new or renewing institution's application for participation, denial of sponsored facility application, notice of proposed termination, claim denial, claim deadline exceptions and requests for upward adjustments to a claim, or any other action affecting an institutions participation or claim for payment.
- 3. All appeal requests must be presented in writing to the TDHS Division of Appeals and Hearings not later than 15 calendar days after the date the institution or sponsoring agency receives the notice of adverse administrative action.
- 4. The date of an institution's or sponsoring agency's receipt of a notice of suspension and/or proposed termination and disqualification will be governed by the federal regulation at 7 CFR Part 226.2. The notice must specify the action being proposed or taken and the basis for the action, and is considered to be received by the institution or day care home when it is delivered, sent by facsimile, or sent by email. If the notice is undeliverable, it is considered to be received by the institution, responsible principal or responsible individual, or day care home five days after being sent to the addressee's last known mailing address, facsimile number, or email address.
- 5. The TDHS Division of Appeals and Hearings will acknowledge the receipt of the appeal request within 10 calendar days of the receipt of the institution's or sponsoring agency's request for review. The written request for review should state if a fair hearing is requested or if a review of written information in lieu of a fair hearing is requested. If the appeal request from the institution or sponsoring agency does not specifically request a hearing, a review of written information in lieu of a hearing will occur. If a fair hearing is requested and the institution or sponsoring agency's representative fails to appear, the right to a personal appearance is waived.
- 6. If an institution or sponsoring agency does not request a fair hearing or a review of written information in lieu of the hearing within 15 calendar days from the date the institution or sponsoring agency receives a Notice of Proposed Termination, the TDHS will issue a letter advising the institution or sponsoring agency that it is terminated from the CACFP effective on the 16th calendar day following the institution's or sponsoring agency's receipt of the notice, and that the responsible principals and individuals of the institution or sponsoring agency are disqualified from participation.
- 7. To be considered for a fair hearing or for a review of written information in lieu of a fair

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hearing, all written documents must be submitted to the TDHS Division of Appeals and Hearings not later than 30 days after receipt of the notice of adverse administrative action.

- 8. The action of the TDHS must remain in effect during the administrative review. The effect of this requirement on particular actions by TDHS is as follows:
  - (i) Overpayment demand. During the period of the administrative review, TDHS is prohibited from taking action to collect or offset the overpayment. However TDHS must assess interest beginning with the initial demand for remittance of the overpayment and continuing through the period of administrative review unless the administrative review official overturns the TDHS's action.
  - (ii) Recovery of advances. During the administrative review, TDHS must continue its efforts to recover advances in excess of the claim for reimbursement for the applicable period. The recovery may be through a demand for full repayment or an adjustment of subsequent payments.
  - (iii) Program payments. The availability of Program payments during an administrative review of the denial of a new institution's application, denial of a renewing institution's application, proposed termination of a participating institution's agreement, and suspension of an institution are addressed in paragraphs (c)(1)(iii)(D), (c)(2)(iii)(D), (c)(3)(iii)(D), (c)(5)(i)(D), and (c)(5)(ii)(E), respectively, of 7 CFR §226.6.
- 9. The institution or sponsoring agency must refute the charges contained in the notice during the fair hearing or in the written information that is provided in lieu of the hearing.
- 10. The institution and the responsible principals and responsible individuals may retain legal counsel, or may be represented by another person.
- 11. If a fair hearing is requested, the institution or sponsoring agency will be notified in writing of the time, date and place of the fair hearing at least 10 calendar days in advance.
- 12. Any information which supports an adverse administrative action taken by the TDHS shall be available to the institution or sponsoring agency for inspection from the date of the receipt of the request for a fair hearing or a review of written information in lieu of the hearing.
- 13. In accordance with 7 CFR Part 226.6 (k)(8), the TDHS Division of Appeals and Hearings must conduct the administrative review of the proposed disqualification of the responsible principals and responsible individuals as part of the administrative review of the application denial, proposed termination, and/or proposed disqualification of the institution with which the responsible principals or responsible individuals are associated. However, at the administrative review official's discretion, separate administrative reviews may be held if the institution does not request an administrative review or if either the institution or the responsible principal or responsible individual demonstrates that their interests conflict.
- 14. The procedures contained in the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act found at TCA 4-5-301 et seq. shall be followed in rendering a decision on all appeals. The decision of the hearing officer is the final administrative determination to be afforded to the institution or sponsoring agency, and shall be rendered in a timely manner not to exceed 60 calendar days from the date of the receipt of the request for a fair hearing.
- 15. The processing limits for administrative appeals MUST be met. In the event a continuance is requested by a party, one continuance may be granted at the Hearing Official's discretion. This

Appeal Procedures for Child and Adult Care Food Program-Institutions Revised March 2017

continuance shall not be for a period longer than ten (10) calendar days unless there are exceptional circumstances. Exceptional circumstances must be detailed in the order of continuance and the order must contain a date certain for the hearing, to be set as soon as possible. A report of pending CACFP desk review and fair hearing requests will be generated and reviewed daily by the Clerk's Office and the Legal Director for Appeals and Hearings who will monitor the dates for timeliness. In the event a decision has not been rendered within forty-five (45) calendar days of the date of receipt of the request for fair hearing or desk review, the Legal Director for Appeals and Hearings or their back-up shall notify the hearing official to take appropriate action.

16. All requests for a fair hearing or for a review of written information in lieu of a hearing must be submitted to:

Tennessee Department of Human Services Division of Appeals and Hearings PO Box 198996, Clerk's Office Nashville, TN 37219-8996 Fax: (615) 248-7013 or (866) 355-6136

E-mail: AppealsClerksOffice,DHS@tn.gov

17. If a termination action is upheld by the hearing officer, the TDHS will issue a letter to the institution or sponsoring agency and its responsible principals and individuals advising that the termination and disqualification are effective on the date of the ruling issued by the hearing officer. The agency maintains searchable records of all administrative reviews and their dispositions for a period of five (5) years.

18. As required by 7 CFR Part 226.6 (c)(7), each disqualified institution, sponsoring agency, principal and individual will be placed on the National Disqualified List maintained by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Once included on the National Disqualified List, an institution, sponsoring agency, principal and individual shall remain on the list until such time as the USDA, in consultation with the TDHS, determines that the serious deficiencies that led to their placement on the list have been corrected, or until seven years have elapsed since they were disqualified from participation. However, if the institution, sponsoring agency, principal or individual has failed to repay debts owed under the program, they will remain on the list until the debt has been paid.

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